



# *Milwaukee County*

Lee Holloway, Chairman of the Board

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For Immediate Release  
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## **STATEMENT ON APPROVAL OF ADVISORY REFERENDUM**

*First step in long-term vision to overhaul funding and delivery of services in Milwaukee County*

**Milwaukee, WI** – Milwaukee County Board Chairman Lee Holloway released the following statement in response to voter approval of a plan to provide property tax relief as well as dedicated funding for mass transit, parks, recreation, culture and emergency medical services through a one percent increase in Milwaukee County's sales tax:

"The voters have spoken. They have approved a modest increase in the sales tax to support our local economy through mass transit, preserving and improving our parks for future generations, and providing a solid funding base for paramedics. The support for this objective was so strong, that the referendum was still approved despite a slowing economy and the misinformation that was circulated by the County Executive and other opponents of the referendum. Democracy is not confusion. Democracy gives the people of Milwaukee County a voice.

"I thank my colleagues on the County Board that voted in favor of placing this issue on the November 4<sup>th</sup> ballot: Supervisors Gerry Broderick, Toni M. Clark, Elizabeth M. Coggs, Marina Dimitrijevic, Willie Johnson, Jr., Patricia Jursik, Chris Larson, Theodore Lipscomb, Michael Mayo, Sr., Johnny L. Thomas, John F. Weishan, Jr., and Peggy A. West. Together, our leadership gave the voters of all municipalities in Milwaukee County the opportunity to participate in this important debate. We respect that voice.

"Approval of this referendum is the first step in a long-term vision to overhaul the way services are funded and delivered in Milwaukee County. Now that we know that the residents of Milwaukee County also share that vision, our next step is to seek approval from the State Legislature and the Governor. We believe that providing property tax relief to our residents, coupled with a small increase in the sales tax, is the best way to reduce the tax burden on property owners in Milwaukee County."

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